

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 22 (cancelled).

Claim 23 (new): A method for suppressing the growth of enteric pathogens in the gut of livestock, the method comprising administering an antimicrobial composition to the livestock, the antimicrobial composition including: (a) a cell wall lysing substance or its salt; (b) at least one of dried egg powder and albumen; and (c) a sequestering agent.

Claim 24 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the enteric pathogens include members of the following families of bacteria: *Clostridium perfringens*, *Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella Typhimurium* and *Salmonella Mbandaka*.

Claim 25 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the cell wall lysing substance or its salt is lysozyme.

Claim 26 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the antimicrobial composition includes both dried egg powder and albumen.

Claim 27 (new): The method according to claim 26, wherein the sequestering agent is an organic acid.

Claim 28 (new): The method according to claim 27, wherein the sequestering agent is a metal-chelator.

Claim 29 (new): The method according to claim 27, wherein the sequestering agent is selected from the group consisting of: (a) disodium ethylenediamine tetraacetate (EDTA); (b) citric acid; and (c) chitosan.

Claim 30 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the antimicrobial composition further includes a lantibiotic.

Claim 31 (new): The method according to claim 30, wherein the lantibiotic is nisin.

Claim 32 (new): The method according to claim 30, wherein the ratio of the cell wall lysing substance or its salt, the at least one of dried egg powder and albumen, the sequestering agent and the lantibiotic, is 50:150:50:20 by weight.

Claim 33 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the antimicrobial composition is in powdered form.

Claim 34 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the antimicrobial composition is in aqueous solution form.

Claim 35 (new): The method according to claim 34, wherein the antimicrobial composition is water-soluble to allow the antimicrobial composition to be mixed with drinking water for administration to the livestock.

Claim 36 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the gastrointestinal infections include necrotic enteritis, *Clostridium perfringens* enteritis and diarrheal disease.

Claim 37 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the ratio of the cell wall lysing substance or its salt, the at least one of dried egg powder and albumen and the sequestering agent, is 2:5:3 by weight.

Claim 38 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the antimicrobial composition includes dried egg powder and the dried egg powder is capable of suppressing additional microbes in the livestock gut.

Claim 39 (new): The method according to claim 38, wherein the additional microbes include molds and viruses.

Claim 40 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the antimicrobial composition is dried egg powder and the dried egg powder is capable of suppressing additional enzymes in the livestock gut.

Claim 41 (new): The method according to claim 40, wherein the additional enzymes include proteases and lipases.

Claim 42 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the antimicrobial composition is administered in aqueous form.

Claim 43 (new): The method according to claim 42, wherein administering an antimicrobial composition to the livestock includes mixing the antimicrobial composition with drinking water for the livestock.

Claim 44 (new): The method according to claim 42, wherein the antimicrobial composition has a final concentration of approximately 100 to 200 parts per million.

Claim 45 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the antimicrobial composition is administered as a feed additive.

Claim 46 (new): The method according to claim 45, wherein the antimicrobial composition has a final concentration of approximately 100 to 200 parts per million.

Claim 47 (new): A method for treating gastrointestinal infections in livestock, the method comprising administering an antimicrobial composition to the livestock, the antimicrobial composition including: (a) a cell wall lysing substance or its salt; (b) at least one of dried egg powder and albumen; and (c) a sequestering agent.

Claim 48 (new): The method according to claim 48, wherein the gastrointestinal infections include necrotic enteritis, *Clostridium perfringens* enteritis and diarrheal disease.